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AMMAN, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 1977 — RABIE AL THANI 3, 1397

Man and boy shot in Karachi

KARACHI, March 23 (R). — A man and a young boy were shot dead today for breaking a curfew in strife-torn Karachi, reliable sources said. Meanwhile, Karachi lawyers and advocates today began a two-day boycott of the courts in protest at what they claim was rigging of the elections. The Karachi Bar Association endorsed demands of the defeated nine-party Pakistan National Alliance (PNA) that Mr. Bhutto should step down to allow a caretaker government to conduct fresh polls under army and judicial supervision. The PNA called a country-wide general strike for Saturday at an emergency meeting of the PNA General Council in Lahore late last night.

Carter urges direct elections

WASHINGTON, March 22 (R). — President Carter today proposed a constitutional amendment calling for the direct popular election of U.S. presidents and abolition of the Electoral College. Mr. Carter, in a special message to Congress, also recommended revisions in voter registration and campaign financing laws to encourage more Americans to go to the polls. Abolition of the Electoral College would end the possibility that a presidential candidate could lose the election even though he won a majority of the popular vote nationally. Mr. Carter said this has happened three times since 1824. The Electoral College has 538 members plus three from the District of Columbia.

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Spanish King, Queen arrive here today

AMMAN, March 22 (Agencies). — Spanish King Juan Carlos arrives here today on a three-day visit to Jordan. He is accompanied by his wife, Queen Sofia, and Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre. The king and queen have heard the views of Jordanian officials and met with Anwar Sadat on the sidelines of a diplomatic offensive launched last week towards the Arab world, which it has traditionally been one of the few non-Arab countries not to have recognized Israel. A few days ago the Liberation Organization opened an office in Madrid.

The talks will be held in Amman and the Red Sea port of Adaba. King Hussein and his chief aides will be at the airport to greet the Spanish monarch and his party. Arches of triumph have been erected, Spanish and Jordanian flags hoisted and the pictures of both monarchs raised. Plaques of welcome hang across the main streets. Scores of policemen will line the eight-km route from the airport to the centre of Amman. King Hussein will accompany his King Juan Carlos on a visit to a Jordanian airbase. Queen Sofia will pay a visit to Al Hussein Medical City and Haya Cultural Centre.



VICTORY AT THE POLLS -- Victorious Janata Party leader Morarji Desai (r), his son Kantibhai Desai and a Janata candidate who defeated incumbent Defence Minister Bansi Lal emerge from a meeting Tuesday morning in New Delhi. (AP wirephoto).

Mrs. Gandhi resigns, opposition to elect new premier Thursday

NEW DELHI, March 22 (R). — Mrs. Indira Gandhi resigned as prime minister today, ending an era in Indian politics, and said she accepted the verdict of voters who threw out her government. Her son Sanjay, who shared personal defeat with his mother in their home constituencies, publicly apologized for his role in the stunning electoral overthrow of Mrs. Gandhi's Congress Party government.

India's combined opposition parties meanwhile claimed they had mustered enough seats for the two-thirds parliamentary majority needed to reject all of Mrs. Gandhi's controversial proposals. Mrs. Gandhi today called on the acting president to submit her resignation in which she said she was bowing down to the verdict of the people.

Many analysts believe that he was one of the Congress Party's biggest electoral liabilities. In the wake of electoral disaster, Mrs. Gandhi revoked her own emergency laws, under which the press was censored and thousands of political opponents were jailed without trial. Today, even as her resignation was accepted, she lifted a ban on 26 political organizations — including the militant wing of the Hindu nationalist Jan Sangh, the extreme social-religious cult Anand Marg and the Jamaat-Islami political party in disputed Kashmir.

Juan Carlos will be the anish monarch in moderate visit to Jordan. ... 's Prime Minister Adorez was to have toured countries in January but of political violence in sent Senor Oreja, who d Jordan from his tour. tion to discussing pollations, the two mona- expected to review tra- tions. hopes to boost exports countries to help offset ade deficit, which tota- 5 billion in 1976, due to oil imports. Jordan's statistics for ow that its trade bal- in favour of Spain. Jord- orts to Spain were ill imported goods worth lion.

On Friday night King Juan Carlos will be host at a dinner party and will leave for home or Saturday morning. Jordanian-Spanish friendship dates back to the time of the late King Abdallah, the founder of Jordan. Jordan and Spain signed a friendship treaty in 1951, a cultural cooperation agreement, an aviation accord, as well as an agreement for cooperation between the television networks in the two countries. In 1961 Jordanian students began to go to Spain to pursue their higher studies at Spanish universities, where a total of 3000 Jordanians are presently enrolled. Last year King Hussein visited Spain.

Chamoun, Gemayel press for Junblatt's killers be brought to justice

BEIRUT, March 22 (AFP). — Chamoun and Piere, respective leaders of the Liberal and Phalangist parties, met here today to discuss the situation in the Beirut area following the murder last week of the Junblatt family and the violent incidents that followed the killing.

conferred with a Phalangist Party delegation on developments in Lebanon and ways of stabilising security there. The Lebanese delegation, which arrived in the Syrian capital earlier today, included Mr. Amin Gemayel, Mr. Karim Pkardouni, Mr. Edmond Rizk and Mr. George Sa'adeh. Their meeting with Mr. Khaddam was attended by Maj. Gen. Najj Jamil, Deputy Defence Minister and air force commander, Maj. Gen. Hikmat Al Shehabel, Army Chief of Staff, and Col. Mohammad Al Kholi, Syria's representative on the Arab committee in charge of implementing the peace plan for Lebanon.

end of the meeting of rightist chiefs, Mr. a told reporters: "If a applied, the popula- be reassured and we id incidents." about the decision of "not to place the 'Jun- fair' before the high Justice, Mr. Chamoun "I hope that the decl- be implemented. Tho- must be arrested as as possible". id there had been ar- lowing the "massacres" eastern Lebanon in r- the Junblatt killing, d he did not know ex- w many persons had rested. Phalangist Party news- Al Amal reported that ons have so far been emayel, on his side, had "no objection" to Wajid Junblatt, son of a leader. The Syrian Deputy and Foreign Minister Hafim Khaddam today

Back in Beirut, Foreign Minister Fuad Butros said today that the United States would shortly inform Lebanon of its attitude concerning Lebanon's request to participate in the Geneva Middle East conference. He made the statement after a meeting with U.S. Ambassador Richard Parker which according to Mr. Butros took place at the diplomat's request. "We have examined the situation from a general point of view," Mr. Butros added before leaving for the presidential palace for talks with President Elias Sarkis. The Soviet Union's attitude to the Lebanese request was transmitted to Mr. Butros on March 16 by Soviet Ambassador Alexander Soldatov, but no details have been given. The United States and the Soviet Union are co-chairmen of the Geneva conference on the Middle East.

4-nation Arab summit on Red Sea opens on theme of "peace zone"

TAIZ, North Yemen, March 22 (R). — The leaders of four Arab League countries began talks here today aimed at making the Red Sea a zone of peace, and at promoting cooperation between all the littoral states. The presidents of Somalia, Sudan and South Yemen joined the North Yemen head of state, Ibrahim Al Hamdi, for private discussions soon after their arrival. The security of the Red Sea, which commands the Suez Canal route between Europe and Asia, has become a topical and sensitive issue in the Arab World. At a summit meeting in Khartoum last month, Egypt, Sudan and Syria pressed ahead with plans to secure Arab domination of the region. In an obvious reference to Ethiopia, President Hamdi told

reporters that the conference here was not directed against any other country. Ethiopia has a long Red Sea coastline and is at odds with Somalia and Sudan, which it has accused of encouraging liberation movements in its eastern province of Eritrea. If the province achieved independence, Ethiopia would lose its two main ports of Assab and Massawa. President Hamdi said: "Our aim is to make the Red Sea a zone of peace." The summit would be part of efforts to bring together all the Red Sea countries, he added. Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the French Territory of the Afars and Issa, which is due to gain independence this summer, all border the sea. Before leaving Aden, South Yemen's President Salem Rubaye' All told reporters, that the summit would discuss efforts to make the Red Sea "a fortified region that cannot be affected by Zionism and imperialism."

Podgorny arrives in Tanzania, starting major diplomatic offensive

WASHINGTON, March 22 (R). — Soviet President Nicolai Podgorny arrived in Tanzania today on the first stage of a major Soviet diplomatic offensive in Southern Africa. Mr. Podgorny, heading a 120-man delegation, flew into Kilimanjaro airport in Northern Tanzania, close to the border with Kenya, where he was met by Tanzanian Vice President Aboud Jumbe. He is the first senior Kramlin leader to visit Southern Africa, and will spend four days in Tanzania. He has no official engagements tonight and will rest in the town of Arusha before flying tomorrow to Dar Es Salaam where he will be officially welcomed by President Julius Nyerere. Mr. Podgorny is following the footsteps of Cuban leader Fidel Castro who left here for Mozambique yesterday on his own African tour. Dr. Castro seems to be preparing the ground for his powerful ally. The Soviet diplomatic initiative is believed aimed at countering intense Western activity in Southern Africa over the last year — mainly in connection with Rhodesia — and at consolidating Moscow's own prestige and influence in the area.

ter: U.S. to maintain West African military presence

Israeli dockers strike

TEL AVIV, March 22 (R). — Israel's 4,500 dock workers went on strike for more pay today, paralysing the three main ports of Haifa, Ashdod and Eilat. A spokesman for the citrus board said an extended strike would cost millions of dollars and the ports authority said that it would ask the labour court for an injunction against the strikers. The port workers, office workers as well as stevedores, are demanding an extra 600 Israeli pounds (about \$60) a month. They had a nine per cent rise four months ago but claim that it has been made meaningless by larger pay settlements in other industries.

Ex-Rabin aide offers Ecuador anti-guerrilla services

TEL AVIV, March 22 (R). — A former security advisor of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has offered to provide Ecuador with anti-guerrilla equipment and services, the newspaper Haaretz said today. Retired army Gen. Rehavam Zeevi arrived in Ecuador several days ago with actor Haim Topol shortly after severing his links with Mr. Rabin. They met an Ecuadorian government minister and described themselves as owners of a company specialising in anti-guerrilla equipment and advice, Haaretz reports. The minister recognised Mr. Zeevi and asked the Israeli ambassador to provide further information. A spokesman for Mr. Rabin stressed that Mr. Zeevi was not on government business.

Sadat put off by Brezhnev's remarks

CAIRO, March 22 (Agencies). — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat today weighed recent statements on the Middle East by United States and Soviet leaders and noted that Soviet Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev had failed to mention the Palestine problem. Speaking to Spanish journalists accompanying King Juan Carlos on a visit to Egypt, President Sadat referred to Mr. Brezhnev's statement in Moscow yesterday. The Soviet leader had said that "conditions of a peaceful (Middle East) settlement can be guaranteed by the United Nations Security Council and major powers like the Soviet Union, the United States, France and Britain."

today that Israel views Mr. Brezhnev's plan for peace in the Middle East as a desperate effort by Moscow to make a comeback in the area. Briefing newsmen on Israel's reaction to the plan, Mr. Avineri said recent Soviet statements on the Middle East reflected the Soviet Union's "self-castration" in the region. Israel saw new nuances in the plan that were absent from traditional Soviet policy, but did not feel that any basic new elements were contained in it, he said. The nuances seen here were the absence of any reference to the Palestine Liberation Organization, a downgrading of the

importance of the Palestinian issue and a softening of terms when describing Israel, he added. Mr. Avineri claimed the Soviet Union today realised that it had put itself outside the picture by its one-sided policy in the Middle East, by the continued weakening of its position in the Arab World and by its breaking of diplomatic relations with Israel in 1967. Israel was pleased at the new tone adopted by Mr. Brezhnev when speaking of Israel while presenting the plan in Moscow yesterday and felt such developments should be encouraged, he said.

Mr. Sadat said Mr. Brezhnev's remarks were "not altogether clear". But he had found some positive and some negative aspects in what Mr. Brezhnev has said. "We have already given our point of view on this," he added, "and that will be at the centre of conversations with the American president next month in Washington."

Unlike Mr. Brezhnev, Mr. Carter has explained the standpoint of the new U.S. administration regarding the Palestine question, Mr. Sadat noted. He said he was surprised by Mr. Brezhnev's suggestion that final documents of a Geneva peace conference should provide for "freedom of navigation for all vessels of all countries in the Straits of Tiran and the Gulf of Aqaba" as well as a declaration by Egypt on the Suez Canal. On Egyptian-Soviet relations Mr. Sadat said they were strained but there had been no recent changes. Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmi said today that the Geneva Middle East peace conference would probably reconvene within the next four months, but that a peaceful settlement was not expected this year. Referring to yesterday's statement by Mr. Brezhnev, Mr. Fahmi said it was "positive, timely and in our interest," although some points needed clarification. He did not elaborate. In occupied Jerusalem, Israel's Foreign Ministry Director General Shlomo Avineri said

Israel faces Arab demonstrations on the Day of the Land

TEL AVIV, March 22 (R). — Israeli Arabs plan a series of peaceful demonstrations next week in memory of six Arabs killed by military forces during demonstrations over land ownership a year ago. Spokesmen for the National Committee for the Defence of Arab Land said here today that the demonstrations would be held in four Galilee villages in which Israeli military forces opened fire on March 30 last year. Six men died and about 70 other Arabs were injured. They said the gatherings would be peaceful "as long as there is no provocation from outside — from army or police."

They based their charge on a letter received last month from the Ministry of Defence concerning claims for compensation for injuries and damage in the Sakhnin village. They gave newsmen copies of the letter. It disclaimed responsibility, saying that a police file had been opened against some villagers and continued: "The action of the soldiers was within the framework of their legal duties, and alternatively this was a military action by the Israeli army. In each of these cases the state is not obliged to pay compensation."

The Arab spokesman said no further land had been requisitioned since last March but the formal requisition orders had been received. They said they had instructed farmers to continue working their fields pending appeals and legal clarifications.

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Managing Editor: Jenab Tutunji
Deputy Managing Editor: Bassam Kishanti

Board of Directors: Jamal's Hassan, Mohamed Amad, Mahmud Al Kayyat, Responsible Editor: Mohamed Amad

JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION
University Road - P.O. Box 6710 - Amman, Jordan
Tel. 67171/2/3/4 - Cables: JORTIMES - Telex: 21497 (AJR)

Global line-up?

The Soviet leader, Mr. Leonid Brezhnev, has put forth the Soviet Union's views on an Arab-Israeli peace settlement at a time when such views are welcomed as a countervailing opinion to the stream of recent comments from the United States. The Soviet Union is a co-chairman of the Geneva Middle East Peace Conference, but it now plays a distinctly secondary role behind the U.S. in the mechanics of Middle East diplomacy. The unceremonious Soviet eviction from Egypt several years ago is, perhaps unfortunately, a good example of the true depth of the Soviet presence in the Arab World. The now-hot-now-cool record of Soviet ties with Arab countries, dramatised by the Egyptian situation, is also being repeated in other countries in the Middle East, and it is a part of the political landscape that must be taken in stride.

Nevertheless, the Arabs have found that the Soviet Union is the only power they can turn to when they need to turn to someone who will act as a counterforce to the United States. This is not to suggest that Arab-Soviet ties are based solely on principles of transitory expediency, but rather to appreciate the full role that the Soviet Union plays in the Middle East. Thus when Mr. Brezhnev outlines his country's views on the kind of Arab-Israeli peace that it would like to see, and these views line up neatly -- perhaps too neatly -- with the general views of Washington, one sees an emerging international consensus whose lynchpin is the Moscow-Washington axis.

Moscow's Mideast peace position is rather clear, and includes a full Israeli withdrawal, formal border agreements and the establishment of a Palestinian state. The American position is not so clear, but recent statements by President Carter match up closely with Mr. Brezhnev's suggestions. The Americans talk of a substantial Israeli withdrawal, and Mr. Carter has mentioned the need to give the Palestinian refugees, as he calls them, a homeland. Presumably, a Palestinian homeland would be in Palestine, but the Americans have yet to come out with all their ideas on the matter of formal Palestinian statehood, and they are unlikely to do so in the near future.

The full convergence of American and Soviet views on a Middle East peace formula still has some way to go, but it is clear from Mr. Brezhnev's remarks that the areas of agreement between the two superpowers are greater than the areas of disagreement, a fact that will be of considerable concern to Israel, whose continued undefined existence and frontiers have relied for their exaggerated survival on global rivalry and regional disparity.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Three Jordanian dailies took up different subjects in their Tuesday editorials. While Al Rai discussed the Palestine National Council's resolutions, considered by some parties as hardline, Al Dustour assessed the achievements of the Arab League on the occasion of its 33rd anniversary, and Al Sha'b commented on Mr. Carter's declarations about the necessity for a Palestinian homeland, that the settlement of the Palestinian problem is one of the prerequisites for solving the Middle East crisis.

AL RAI, says that if the guarantors of a Middle East peace settlement expected the Palestinians to adopt moderate positions, they should provide them with the necessary justifications to do so. The United States, the paper adds, should accept that the Palestinians have a country called Palestine if it is really convinced that the settlement of the Palestinian problem is a prerequisite to that of solving the Middle East conflict. President Carter's declarations about the necessity for a Palestinian homeland and his shaking hands with the Palestine Liberation Organisation PLO representatives at the U.N. cannot be considered sufficient assurance of U.S. intentions towards the Palestinians, the paper says. If the PLO is required to recognise Israel then the limits and context of that state should be defined, for how could the PLO recognise a state which is plotting to swallow the whole of Palestine? The Israeli position is well known, the paper says, and Premier Rabin has declared that Israel will launch an "information campaign" against the Palestine National Council resolutions. This intent, the paper concludes, is but an indicator of Israel's unwavering position, which changed only tactically under international pressures.

AL DUSTOUR, says that the Arab League welcomes its 33rd anniversary, with Zionist aggression at its peak, and with requirements needed to face the aggression different from those faced by the Arab body at its foundation. The situation in the region at present is worse than it was 32 years ago, as Israel has swallowed during that period, a large part of our lands and still threatens to occupy more. If Arab "solidarity" at that time was the main objective of the League, to enable it to face the challenge of the period, the present stage requires a unified Arab strategy on the political, economic and military fronts, to enable the Arabs, through their league, to efficiently face the dangers surrounding them. The transition from the "solidarity stage" to that of "Arab unified strategy", the paper adds, requires that the Arab League develop to align it with these new requirements. This development stage needs more effort and sincere wish by Arabs for unified work. The dangers surrounding the Arab nations, the paper concludes, oblige us to carry out this development and to do our utmost to do it at once.

AL SHA'B, discussing President Carter's latest declarations on the Middle East says that his failure to mention the location of the Palestinian homeland perhaps resulted from his thinking it to be too premature to disclose it. However this does not exonerate him from explaining and defining more clearly his thoughts. We are with the U.S. president concerning the necessity for that homeland, the paper adds, and it only could be the natural and legitimate homeland, Palestine, from which the Palestinians have been evicted. The Palestinians and the Arabs will not accept any other replacement, the paper added. Reinstatement to the Palestinians of their national rights on their national soil alone can help in settling the Middle East conflict, the paper concluded.



Failure to solve Sri Lanka's economic ills may hurt Freedom Party's chances in elections

Many basic industries were taken over under the Business Undertakings (Acquisition) Act of 1971. A maximum limit was imposed on incomes and a capital levy on personal wealth, and a comprehensive land reform act was rushed through before satisfactory arrangements could be made for redistributing the confiscated land. The effect was to deter foreign investment in the country.

The LSSP managed to install a high proportion of its own nominees in the management of the industries which had thus been taken over. Its final expulsion from the government resulted from an argument with Mrs. Bandaranaike over which party should oversee the tea, rubber, coconut and coffee plantations after their take-over by the state. The urban-based LSSP was especially keen to increase its rural support in this way.

After the LSSP's departure the Communist Party remained in the government, with one cabinet member and a deputy minister. The C.P. continued to urge further extensions of state control: Over the entire banking system; the finance companies; the synthetic textile industry; the major drug-manufacturing firms; and all subsidiaries of multinational corporations.

The SLFP has never won an election without the help of the LSSP and the C.P. At the 1956 and 1960 elections the parties agreed not to put up candidates against each other. In 1970 the three parties had a full alliance, formed in March 1968, committing them to establish a joint government if successful at the polls. There has been chronic mutual rivalry among all three partners, however, and the alliance came under acute strain later in 1968 when the C.P. refused to echo the other two partners' condemnation of the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia.

But the alliance survived for the Marxist parties, to take power with the SLFP in 1970, although the overwhelming success of the SLFP led many people to think that Mrs. Bandaranaike could have won without Marxist backing. Mrs. Bandaranaike had also shared power briefly with the LSSP at the end of 1964, when she took it into her government as a result of pressure from the LSSP and the C.P. whose trade unions had staged a series of co-ordinated and politically motivated strikes.

Mr. N.M. Perera, as minister of finance, on that occasion, had tried to implement a comprehensive programme of nationalisation and his party threatened to introduce serious restraints on the freedom of the press and independence of the judiciary. The Trotskyists' action brought about the downfall of the coalition government at the end of 1964, and it was regarded as a contributory cause of the SLFP's defeat at the general elections which followed in March 1975.

COLOMBO, (WFS) — Despite their withdrawal from the government after almost seven years as a junior member of the coalition headed by Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, some observers now believe Sri Lanka's pro-Soviet Communist Party (C.P.) may try to reach some form of electoral pact

with Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP). No date has yet been announced for the elections, but they must be held within four months of the dissolution of parliament, which is due to take place by May 22 at the latest.

The defection of the Communist Party and four left-wing members of Mrs. Bandaranaike's middle-of-the-road SLFP from the government has come at a time when Mrs. Bandaranaike's chances in the elections are causing her supporters some alarm. The main reason is the loss of popular support due to failure to solve the long-standing economic problems of Sri Lanka.

Her difficulties have been made worse by the recent strikes in the public services. These began at the end of last year and lasted into the middle of January, affecting the railways, the docks, bus services and clerical staff in the civil service.

The strike campaign was led by unions under the control of the Communist Party and the so-called Trotskyist Lanka Sama Samaja Party (LSSP) which, like the C.P., was once in Mrs. Bandaranaike's pre-1970 government, having been expelled in September 1975. Mrs. Bandaranaike has referred to "foreign interference" in the strikes, although she has not specified which foreigners are concerned.

By withdrawing before the election campaign opens, Sri Lanka's left is thought to be disclaiming responsibility for the country's economic plight and hopes to avoid blame for the government's failure to solve economic and other problems.

Among the non-economic problems are those relating to the Tamil minority -- whose frustrations led to violent demonstrations in the north last August -- and the students. All the universities remain closed since the violent student clashes with the police on the Peradeniya campus last November, in which one student was killed.

Mrs. Bandaranaike had warned the Communist Party that it could not hope to remain in the coalition if it continued to harass the government outside, and it quit before it was sacked.

The reason given for the Communist Party's departure from the government, however, is its frustration at the lack of power that it had within the coalition. But observers suggest that both the communists and the Trotskyists moved economic policies, in particular, to the left at a pace which worried the ruling party.

The LSSP, whose policies were acceptable to Moscow, though the party rejected direct Soviet guidance, and the Communist Party had been invited to join the SLFP government after the 1970 elections.

In spite of their lack of seats, the two Marxist parties, who had gained only 19 and 6 seats respectively compared with the SLFP's 90, had some success in getting their views accepted by the government, especially in the economic field. In particular they pressed for a more rapid programme of nationalisation than Mrs. Bandaranaike wanted. Before the LSSP was expelled, Sri Lanka's imports of essential commodities were almost entirely under state control.

Psychological warfare grips impoverished northeast Thailand

NORTHEAST Thailand, March 22 (R). — A battle is on for the hearts and minds of the villagers of this dusty province in northeastern Thailand. Some days not a shot is fired between the two adversaries -- the troops and officials of the royal Thai government and small bands of communist insurgents in the foothills of the Phu Phan mountain range.

On other occasions there are casualties. Like the irrigation department driver who was killed when he drove over a communist landmine near Na-Hoo village early this month.

Four kilometres (nearly three miles) from the same village an army patrol clashed last week with a group of guerrillas in the hills but no casualties were reported. The northeast is one of three where the government is combating an 11-year-old insurgency. Of some 10,000 hard-core guerrillas active in the north, northeast and south, 3,500 are in the northeast, with voluntary or enforced support from an estimated 60,000 villagers.

Kalasin province is one of 16 provinces in the northeast that are especially sensitive to communist influence, especially because of their proximity to the Laotian and Cambodian borders.

And on the front line in Kalasin is a road being built under the watchful eye of the army.

So when the communist leaflets started circulating last month, his reply to villagers was that the road would not be used for this purpose. Local villagers were drafted to help in providing security for the construction work, alongside the army.

"The communists will not hurt local people," Commander Yongyut told a group of visiting journalists. "If they do, they will lose friends."

While providing security for work-gangs and for the project, armed soldiers guard each sensitive village in this area, alongside local civilian defence volunteers -- the armed forces put politics first, military operations second, says an officer.

"We do not want to kill the insurgents," he said. "We would rather have them defect to the government. So the emphasis is being placed on psychological operations, not suppression."

Apart from the road the local M.D.U. is helping villagers grow, cure and market tobacco and weave silk and cotton. Livestock breeding and artificial insemination of cows is another current programme.

It was one of the first M.D.U.'s set up in Thailand. There are units in 28 sensitive provinces doing similar work.

The Kalasin unit, based at Na-Khoo, operates in two districts and covers a total of 158 villages with 150,000 people, working alongside civilian officials.

Official guidelines for M.D.U. officers and men stress the importance of the villager, the need to avoid an overbearing, high-handed approach and to be cooperative, responsible and adaptable to local needs.

"Discard any attitude that government officials are the masters, administrators, protectors or a class above the common villagers," says the first of 20 guideline points.

How successful has the work in Kalasin been?

For the local villagers, if the development projects did not exist life would be even

tougher than it is already. That is very tough indeed. Military officers say average per capita income here is only 1,500 (75 dollars) per year, one of the national averages.

Declaring his support for road, 58-year-old farmer told that it would make easier for him to get his due to market.

A father of seven, he produces rice worth 10,000 baht (500 dollars), much of that is to feed family. The proceeds of three tons of tapioca annu is his meagre income.

The needs of the villager are simple -- water is main one, as it is through the area of northeast Thailand. The problem is especially this year.

The view of the guerrilla clear -- life would be easier for them if there were roads and if there was no government development among the villagers.

As for the government, it realizes that without development efforts the communists would have chance of recruiting or financing hundreds of thousands of poverty-stricken lagers.

There are a few small insurgent groups active in hills spanning Kalasin neighbouring provinces Sakon Nakhon, totalling 200 people, according to a Governor Aron Pusut Mr. Aron says guerrillas have increased.

He cites a toughening communist policy as a reason for the increase in numbers. They are now forcing villagers to join them, killing those who cooperate with the government, he says.

According to a Bangkok army colonel, the number guerrillas has not increased the number of incidents freights with army troops.

"They have not been to bring about their revolt by political means, so have to use arms," he said.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

<p>JORDAN TELEVISION</p> <p>Channel 2 & 6 : 6:00 Quran 6:05 Cartoons 6:30 Agricultural programme 7:00 Lucy show 8:00 News in Arabic Channel 3 : 7:30 Sports programme</p> <p>8:30 Arabic series 9:20 Reportage Channel 6 : 7:30 News in Hebrew 7:45 Varieties 8:30 Doctor in charge 9:10 The Fallisers 10:00 News in English 10:15 Mystery movie</p> <p>RADIO JORDAN (On 858 KHZ) 7:00 Morning melodies 7:30 News 7:40 News report 8:00 Sign off 12:00 Pop session 12:05 News summary 12:05 Pop session 14:00 News magazine 14:30 Arabic in history 15:00 Concert hour 16:00 Old favourites</p> <p>16:30 Easy listening 17:30 Gaze vibrations (repeat) 17:30 Pop session 18:00 News summary 18:05 Pop session 18:15 Catch the words (repeat) 18:30 My kind of music (repeat) 19:00 News 19:10 News reports 19:20 Sign off</p> <p>EMERGENCIES</p> <p>Doctors : Amman : Awad Hawamdeh (72350) Tariq Kayyat (30273)</p> <p>Ibaid : Mohammed Sardanah Kassem Khazirlich</p> <p>Zarga : Yahya Tariq (82084)</p> <p>Pharmacists : Amman : Nihad (20844) College (26010)</p> <p>Ibn Cina (25403) Jazfari (72679)</p> <p>Ibaid : Yarmuk Zarga : Abu Sharakh Shifa</p> <p>Taxis : Jerusalem (39055) Shamsi (21523) Noel (44233) Fayyal (22015)</p>	<p>AMMAN AIRPORT</p> <p>Arrivals : 8:20 Dubai (Alitalia) 8:25 Beirut (MEA) 8:45 Karachi, Abu Dhabi 9:15 Jeddah 11:50 Beirut 11:10 Athens 14:15 Athens (GA) 14:20 Jeddah (SDI) 17:15 Larissa (CY) 18:00 Aleppo, Damascus 17:45 Cairo 17:35 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva 18:40 Beirut (MEA) 19:50 London (BA) 21:25 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (Lufthansa)</p> <p>Departures : 8:00 Beirut 8:30 Beirut (MEA) 8:45 Rome (Alitalia) 9:30 Aqaba 10:50 Athens, Amsterdam (GAMA) 11:00 Vienna, Copenhagen 11:45 Cairo 12:00 London 12:15 Damascus, Aleppo 13:00 Beirut, Abu Dhabi, Moscow (GA) 15:05 Riyadh, Dhahran (SDI) 18:00 Larissa (CY) 18:55 Kuwait, Dhahran 20:00 Baghdad 21:05 Rawalpindi (BA)</p> <p>BBC RADIO</p> <p>GMT 14:30 The Tomb Robbers 15:00 Radio Newsworld 15:15 Outlook 16:00 News, Commentary 16:15 Just a Minute 16:45 The World Today 17:00 News 17:05 Discovery 17:40 Book Choice 17:45 Sports Round-up 18:00 Radio Newsworld 18:30 Top Twenty 18:50 Outlook : News Summary 19:40 Stock Market Report 19:45 News at 10 20:00 News : 24 hours 20:20 David Gell's Music 21:00 Report on Religion 21:15 Wales '77 21:30 Composer and Interpreter 22:00 News: The World Today 22:25 Sports Round-up 22:45 Sports Round-up 23:00 News: Commentary</p>	<p>VOICE OF AMERICA</p> <p>GMT 03:00 The Breakfast Show : 18:00 Special English: New Features : Space a Minute 04:00, 04:50, 05:00 and 05:00 News USA (Standard Time) 05:00 GMT : News, Regional and Topical Reports : 18:30 News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary, VOA Magazine, Arab News, Science, Culture Letters. 05:30, 04:30 and 05:30 GMT : An informal presentation of popular music with feature reports : 20:00 Special English: Report and Interview, answers 22:15 to listener questions, Science Digest. 17:00 News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analysis, News Summary. 17:30 Dailies.</p> <p>18:30 VOA World Report and Interview, answers to listener questions, Science Digest. 21:30 VOA World Report and Interview, answers to listener questions, Science Digest.</p> <p>USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS</p> <p>Assistance (government) Tel. 78111 Civil defence rescue 24391-4 Fire headquarters 22000 First aid, fire, police 19 Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) 38281-2 Municipal water service (emergency) 37111-3 Police headquarters 38141 Nights, saving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help 31111, 377</p> <p>Cultural Centres</p> <p>American Centre (CIES) Tel. 41220 British Council 30347-9 French Cultural Centre 57800 Goethe Institute 41393 Soviet Cultural Centre 42002 Amman Municipal Library 38111</p>
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هكزا صد اتصل

Mudar Badran visits Jordan Valley projects

AMMAN (JNA). — Prime Minister Mudar Badran and the members of his cabinet, including the ministers of education, culture, youth, communications, agriculture and public works, Tuesday went on an inspection tour of a number of projects in the central Jordan Valley.

This project will also include the installation of new stations to pump water through a 350-km pipe. Most of the water will be brought from King Talal Dam and the Yarmouk River.

area and promised to do his best to back all the agricultural projects, as well as conducting a study on developing vegetable marketing and building stores for fertilisers and a canning factory through the farmers union to be backed by the government.

The third project visited was a rural development project, which aims to provide the necessary public utilities for all the villages that are planned in the Jordan Valley.

A total of 28 schools, a complex for government departments, seven small complexes, a building for social activities in Kraymeh, 300 housing units for government employees and a centre for agricultural products will be built. The cost of the project is estimated at JD 4.6 million, of which USAID will provide JD 3.6 million.

Finally, the party visited the pumping stations on the completed part of the East Ghor canal and the new diversion dam which is being constructed on the Zarqa stream. The body of the dam will be 60 metres in length and 4 metres in height. Up till now, 75 per cent of the work has been completed. The water from the dam will irrigate 15,500 dunams and will be carried through 214 kms of pipes. This project, of which 27 per cent has been completed, costs JD 2.25 million.

Completed, it will irrigate 866 units of dunams each to be distributed among the farmers of the area. The sprinklers to be irrigated will be pumped from the dam and Wadi Hu-

Premier and his party visited Husban-Kafrein irrigation project where they were met by a JVC official in charge of this project.

The Crown Prince briefed the delegation members on Jordan's policy of economic openness with Arab and foreign countries aimed at achieving close cooperation in economic fields.

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Premier Badran presided over a meeting at the end of his tour and stressed the point that these projects can be fully exploited if Jordan develops the capabilities of its workers. He then listened to some of the demands of the people of that

He said that Jordan is interested in all scientific research and modern technology, especially that concerning energy and desalination.

Completed, it will irrigate 866 units of dunams each to be distributed among the farmers of the area. The sprinklers to be irrigated will be pumped from the dam and Wadi Hu-



Mudar Badran leads a ministerial delegation as it inspects Kafrein Dam in the Jordan Valley Tuesday. (JNA photo).

PRINCE HASSAN RECEIVES CANADIAN M.P.'s

AMMAN (JNA). — Prince Hassan today received the visiting Canadian parliamentary delegation.

The Crown Prince briefed the delegation members on Jordan's policy of economic openness with Arab and foreign countries aimed at achieving close cooperation in economic fields.

Prince Hassan also outlined the goals of the Jordanian development plans, putting particular emphasis on seaports, wide-gauge railways and roads.

He said that Jordan is interested in all scientific research and modern technology, especially that concerning energy and desalination.

Seminar on pastures opens in Morocco

RABAT, March 22 (JNA). — A seminar on pastures and animal wealth in the drylands opened here today.

The Moroccan News Agency said the week-long seminar, organised by the Arab Centre for the Study of Dry Regions and Arid Territories, is being attended by experts from 12 Arab countries, as well as from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation and the U.N. Environment Programme.

The Moroccan Minister of Farming and Agricultural Reform, Mr. Saleh Al Mezally, who presided over the opening session, underlined the importance of the seminar at a time when the world is suffering food shortages. He said the shortage in most animal products has resulted in rapid price increases, which have prompted many countries to take urgent measures to fulfil people's needs.

The Moroccan minister said that it is not difficult for the Arab countries to exploit their pasture potential and devise their own technological me-

thods thanks to the vast natural and human resources at their disposal.

He expressed the hope that the seminar would be an opportunity for an exchange of expertise and the adoption of a unified plan for the study, financing and implementation of pasture projects within the framework of Arab economic integration.

American sources report that the sale has taken place without the knowledge and approval of the United States.

ROCKEFELLER ARRIVES FOR SHORT VISIT

AMMAN (R). — Former United States Vice President Nelson Rockefeller arrived here Tuesday on a visit to Jordan that will last several days.

During his visit, Mr. Rockefeller will meet King Hussein and other senior officials.

He has already visited Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

Israel sells planes to Honduras

TEL AVIV, March 22 (Agencies). — Israel will sell six Super-Mystere jets to Honduras, Haaretz daily said Tuesday. The engines of these jets have been replaced by American ones, Israeli sources said.

American sources report that the sale has taken place without the knowledge and approval of the United States.

FIRE GUTS SPONGE FACTORY

AMMAN (R). — Fire gutted a sponge factory near Amman Monday night and losses are estimated at about JD 1 million, the local press reported today.

The blaze, which lasted two hours before it was put out, was caused by a short circuit, they said.

The owner of the factory, located in the industrial area of Awajan, 11 kms east of here, was quoted as saying that the entire stock of sponges was burnt and the building destroyed.

This is the second sponge factory destroyed by fire in Jordan in less than a year.

Japanese company wins Yarmouk design contract

AMMAN (JNA). — An agreement was signed at Yarmouk University liaison office here Tuesday for a master plan of the university to be carried out by the Japanese Kanzo Tange consultant company and a Jordanian associate.

position of the various elements in relation to one another, and providing architectural diagrams and relief maps explaining all elements.

Under the agreement, the company will prepare a master plan indicating the building units for colleges, academic departments, a teaching hospital, a sports city, housing accommodation for students and staff, cultural and social centres and all other public services.

The accord was signed for Yarmouk University by Prime Minister Mudar Badran in his capacity as President of the Royal Committee for Yarmouk University, and for the consultant by its Director General Kanzo Tange and the Jordanian participant Mr. Ja'far Touqan.

Aviation academy meet continues

AMMAN (JNA). — A committee of Arab civil aviation experts and specialists Tuesday resumed work at Casablanca in Morocco on establishing an Arab civil aviation academy.

The committee began its meeting Monday with delegates from Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Morocco, North and South Yemen, Palestine and the Permaoet Bureau of the Arab Civil Aviation Council taking part.

The director of Morocco's Al Nawasser International Airport, who was elected chairman of the meeting, stressed the need to raise the academy project with the Euro-Arab dialogue committee.

The President of the University, Dr. Adnan Badran, said the overall plans are expected to be completed within nine months. The tender was awarded last February to Kanzo Tange and its Jordanian partner.

ARAB HOUSING BANK TO BE ESTABLISHED

AMMAN (JNA). — The second Arab housing conference has decided to set up an Arab housing bank, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs Ibrahim Ayyoub stated on his return here after the meeting ended in Baghdad Monday.

Mr. Ayyoub, who led a Jordanian delegation to the conference, said that Arab banks were urged to finance housing projects, encourage joint Arab investment companies specialised in housing and give housing projects the same priority given to industrial projects.

The conference will next meet in Tunis in 1978.

Pen factory starts up in Irbid

IRBID (JNA). — A ball-point pen factory has started production at the industrial zone here. The manager said the plant's annual capacity is estimated at 18 million pens, or 50,000 per day. Jordan's consumption needs will be covered and the surplus exported to neighbouring Arab countries.

He said the factory will sell one million pens to Syria, Lebanon, and Abu Dhabi, 500,000 to Kuwait and two million to Iraq this year alone. The factory, which cost JD 500,000, will be formally inaugurated under royal patronage during King Hussein's Silver Jubilee celebrations.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

U.K. sterling	572.0	578.0
U.S. dollar	332.0	334.0
German mark	139.4	139.8
French franc	66.8	67.1
Swiss franc	130.8	131.2
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.5	37.7
Saudi riyal	53.8	54.2
Lebanese pound	109.6	110.2
Syrian pound	82.0	82.3
Iraqi dinar	945.0	952.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,150.0	1,155.0
Egyptian pound	472.0	478.0
Libyan dinar	800.0	820.0
UAE dirham	84.8	85.5

Joint c'ttee on agriculture meets Saturday

DAMASCUS, March 22 (JNA). — The Joint Jordanian-Syrian Agriculture Committee will meet here next Saturday to study and debate what has been achieved by the agricultural sub-committees. This will then be submitted to the joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee at its meeting next month in Amman.

Jordanian Minister of Agriculture Salah Jum'a is expected in Damascus Saturday to lead his country's delegation to the meeting.

Meanwhile, the Committee for the Unification of Investment Laws will meet in Damascus at the end of March to study the unified law between the two countries.

Education team returns from Oman

AMMAN (JNA). — A Jordanian education delegation Tuesday returned here from a four-day visit to Oman at the invitation of the Omani Minister of Education Ahmad Al Ghazali.

The head of the delegation, Dr. Ishaq Al Farhan, the President of the University of Jordan, said that discussions with Omani education authorities dealt with Jordan's help in drawing up text-books and curricula for Omani schools within the framework of bilateral cultural cooperation.

Dr. Al Farhan said that committees will be formed for this purpose from the Ministry of Education and the Universities of Jordan and Yarmouk.

NATIONAL NOTES

* AMMAN. — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes to Pakistani President Fazl Elahi Chaudhry on the occasion of Pakistan's national day Tuesday.

* AMMAN. — The Amman Chamber of Industry Tuesday received an invitation from the Arab-Swiss Chamber of Industry and Commerce to attend its general assembly in Geneva on Friday. It was also invited to attend an international festival on foodstuffs and their production equipment in Greece April 17-24.

* IRBID. — Directors of Irbid's voluntary associations met here Tuesday to study questions related to child care. Their ideas will be presented at a seminar to be held in early April under the patronage of Her Highness Princess Basma.

* AMMAN. — Interior Minister Suleiman Arar presided over a meeting here Tuesday to discuss programme arrangements for His Majesty King Hussein's Silver Jubilee and reviewed a number of public security issues.

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Pakistan Day celebrations mark the 37th year since Pakistan's conception

Today marks the celebration of Pakistan Day, the 37th year since Muslims on the Asian subcontinent decided to form a separate state. Since this decision Pakistan has been through a momentous struggle both internal and external to develop and establish it as an independent, democratic nation.

March 23, 1940, is an important date in the history of Pakistan. In fact, the most important. That was when the idea of the country by that name was first formally adopted.

The adoption was not a simple matter either. The subcontinent of India had been a single political entity off and on during its long history. When the Muslims came in the early 16th century, they had enough to do just to conquer and appease the different parts. But conquest was not enough. The population also had to be held together, both politically at the state level, and socially and culturally on the popular plane. This was not easy. Each of the emperors, Babur and Humayun, Akbar, Jehangir, Shahjahan and Aurangzeb, evolved his own policies.

The British didn't find the problem of heterogeneity settled by the time their rule came in the 19th century. Far from it. Communal differences were in fact one of the first challenges they faced. Throughout a century of their rule the problem never really died down. The communities only resolved to live their separate existence. It was when the self-appointed arbitrator between them, the English, saw that they had to pull out and leave, that the disparate parties got pitted directly against each other. They felt compelled to find a permanent solution.

The permanent solution of separation, when it eventually arrived in March 1940, appeared the most natural and logical answer to the problem. It was a surprise that it had not seriously occurred to people before. But there were rea-

sons why it had not occurred. Historical habits are hard to break, and although the Hindus and Muslims were never integrated, they continued in uneasy co-existence because that seemed to be their historical lot.

The pinch wasn't felt acutely under the Muslims since they tried hard to mete out even-handed justice. Under the British, the Muslims suffered a great deal economically and culturally, but they were slow to organise themselves sufficiently to draw attention to their lot.

As the 20th century advanced however and as the concept and elements of the nation-state got more and more woven into political thinking and practice, it became increasingly clear that two communities as different as they were, in religion, culture and geography, simply could not continue as a single, harmonious nation.

The 1940 Lahore decision by the Muslims, therefore, that they should have a separate homeland in the areas of their highest concentration in the northeast and north-west of the subcontinent, was a bold and progressive step. It was bold because it marked a fundamental break from subcontinental history; it was progressive because it was a national, democratic answer releasing both communities of a debilitating sore and removing a major hurdle in the way of their future development.

But even natural historical developments take individuals to carry them out. Without them they may never occur, especially if they have to encounter opposition from past history and strong hostility from the present contending forces. The resolution on Pakistan and its emergence within seven years owes the

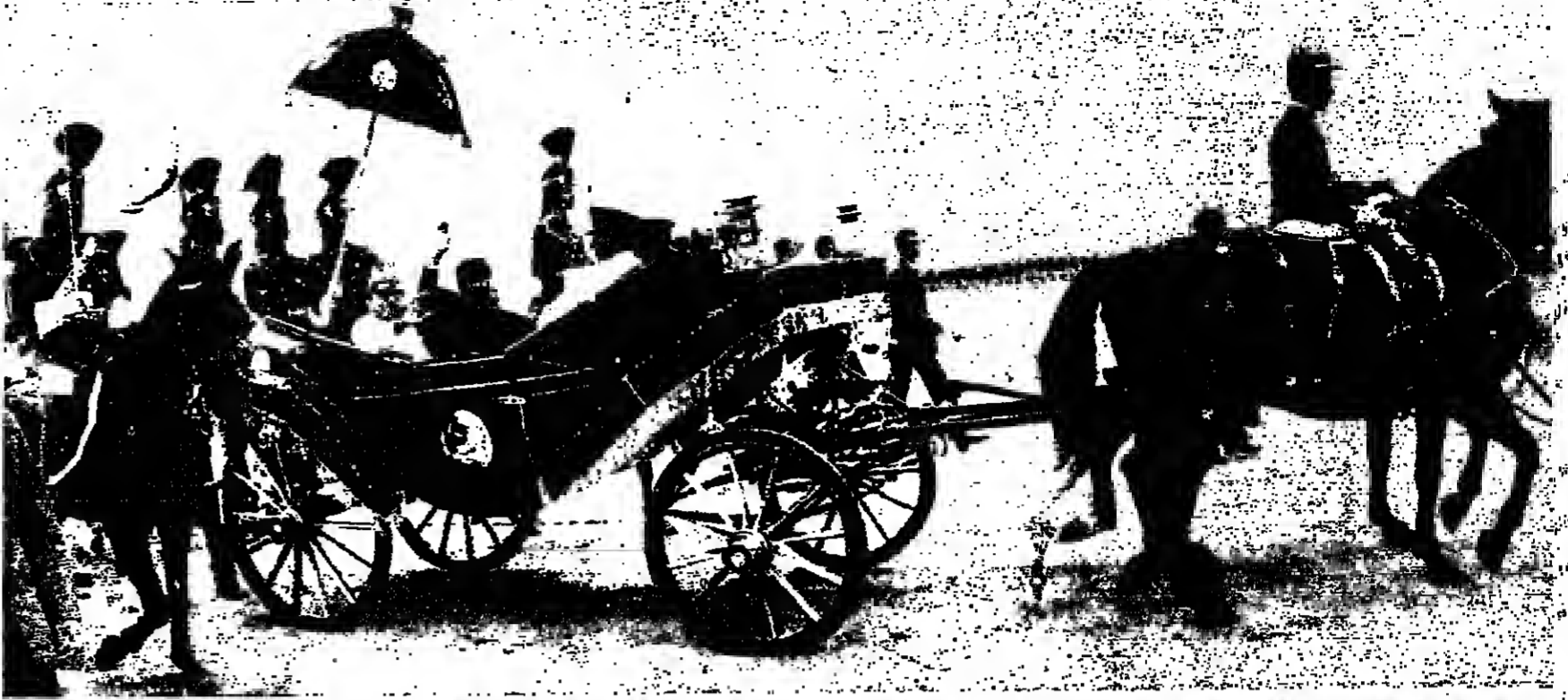
most to one man -- Mohammad Ali Jinnah. In a recent book published in Britain, eminent scholars who have known this subcontinent closely in various capacities, like Hugh Trevor Roper, Ian Stephens and Lord Mountbatten, gave their assessment of this great man. One that truly sums up his achievement is by H.V. Dodson who wrote: "Of Mohammad Ali Jinnah it can be said, as of very few other men in modern history, that without him -- him alone -- the map of the world, the destiny of a nation, could not have been as it became. Had there been no Jinnah, there would have been no Pakistan, certainly not in 1947, though it conceivably might have emerged much later. His life and character are of the highest interest to every historian and student of mankind."

Jinnah was old and ailing by the time Pakistan came. He died a year later. A new state doesn't run on the strength of the boundaries drawn, very great as that achievement may be. It requires after that to be quickly understructured by strong pillars, an agreed constitution, institutions, stable, public spirited leadership, popular and productive policies, and developing friendship with countries abroad to reinforce the state's sense of identity and security. This second follow-up phase didn't come for a long time with disastrous consequences. The constitution did not get drafted; the leadership got involved in a power struggle; foolish, short-sighted foreign policies led to an imbalance in foreign relations that alienated one super-power for the sake of another, antagonised one group of Muslim countries because of an exclusive concero for another, and so on.

Frequent changes in government throughout the fifties led to the imposition of one martial law followed by another. Economic progress was greatly hampered. National integration suffered to the extent (that in 1971) half of the country seceded.

Mr. Z.A. Bhutto stepped into power in the midst of this disarray, a legacy of over twenty years of misrule. He had formed a political party of his own in 1967 and led it to victory in the country's first general election in 1970 on a democratic, socialist programme.

He set himself two immediate priorities -- the obliteration



President Fazal Alah Chaudhry and Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto arrive at Rawalpindi Race Course Grounds in the state coach to review the Pakistan Day parade on March 23, 1977.

tion of the massive effects of the 1971 war and drawing up of a fully democratic federal constitution. But alongside these, he also initiated the first total overhaul of the socio-economic order that the country had employed. The reforms came in the fields of labour, industrial ownership, commercial management, land holdings and agricultural practices, education, health, law and foreign relations. Labour was guaranteed minimum wages at an enhanced rate, assured security of service and protected against arbitrary actions, given a variety of monetary and social benefits (including pensions, gratuity, health cover, etc), promised housing on a phased basis, allowed participation in management and profits, and ensured full freedom for collective bargaining and other trade union activities.

Then key industries were nationalised. So was banking and insurance, and the corporate sector was completely reformed to eliminate unfair practices and ensure equitable distribution of profits.

The ceiling for land holdings was twice reduced and now stands at 100 acres. All resumed land has been or is being distributed free among land-

less peasants and those with less than subsistence holdings; similarly being distributed are all state lands. Land revenue has been exempted up to the holdings of 25 acres; and a variety of benefits have been granted for the tenants and small landholders with respect to irrigation, seed, fertiliser, pesticide and credit facilities.

Private schools and colleges

were nationalised, and all schooling has been made free, which is also to be made compulsory in the next few years.

Health cover is being extended to the remotest areas and medical education has expanded with the doubling in the number of colleges in the past 5 years.

An important and growing

dimension of Pakistan's foreign relations has been its close friendship with the Muslim countries and an active role as a member of the Third World group of nations. Mr. Bhutto was able to convene a summit conference of the entire Muslim world in February 1974, which saw kings, presidents and prime ministers representing 38 countries of Asia, Africa and the Middle East covering in

Lahore. Economic cooperation with Iran, Saudi Arab and other Arab Gulf states reared several-fold in five years.

The country has been active on Third World like the Group of 77, UN IV held in Nairobi, the South dialogue going Paris and the sixth and special sessions of the General Assembly. It faces the current chair the 112-member group. The latest initiative a call issued by Mr. Bhutto for the Third World to decide on a summit for negotiations developed countries a evolving a New World Order.

Old Bibles with printing errors fetch record prices

The other day in London a 1535 first edition of the Coverdale Bible -- the first complete English bible -- was sold for a record £30,000.

This is the auction record for a bible in English, the previous highest price being £16,000 eleven years ago.

The latest sale, at Sotheby's, proves that there is no hotter property than the good book, old or new. A massive 100 million copies of the bible are now sold throughout the world every year -- more than Shakespeare, Ian Fleming and all the other top-selling authors combined.

And thanks to the evangelising zeal of the early missionaries, the bible has been translated into every language under the sun, and just about every sub-language and dialect as well.

About the only spot on earth where the printing presses aren't kept busy full-time turning out the sacred book is the U.S.S.R., where there is no official religion.

Virtually from the time of the Middle Ages, when the printing press and moveable type were invented, public demand for the bible has been heavy.

Printers of the past were often under great pressure to fill orders and in their haste, they often made terrible errors.

Those errors could, and occasionally did, cost them their livelihood. This happened in 1631 with a version of the good book that became known as "The Wicked Bible".

For when the edition went on sale in the streets of London, the word "not" was found to have omitted from the commandment "Thou shalt not commit adultery".

Archbishop Laud was so enraged on reading the text that he imposed a £300 fine on the hapless printer (Church courts had the power to fix such penalties in those days).

Today, mistakes like this have turned certain bibles into rare collectors' items, and they change hands for very high sums in the fine art salerooms

of London and New York. One very rare bible is one known colloquially as the "Treadle" bible. In this, the phrase: "Is there no balm in Gilead...? (Jeremiah 8:22) is rendered "Is there no treadle in Gilead...?"

The rarity of the edition comes about because the indignant ecclesiastical authorities did their best to suppress the sale, and to destroy all copies of the bible they could find. Only a handful survived.

When a version of the authorised bible was published in 1717 by one J. Baskett, readers were impressed by its handsome tooled leather binding.

But closer inspection revealed so many typographical errors that it was soon labelled "a Baskett full of errors."

It was also known as the "Vinegar" Bible, because the words "The parable of the vineyard" appeared on the page heading to Luke 20 as "The parable of the vinegar."

Red faces were caused all round, too, when the Judas bible was published. This edition contained the following words: "Then cometh Judas with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto his disciples, 'Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.'"

The name of Jesus should, of course, have been there instead of Judas.

It seems strange that these volumes should feature mistakes, for of all the books published and circulated in England and America, the bible had the most care lavished on it. This had to be so, because the punishment for blasphemy was severe.

No one knows the fate which befell the publisher of the "Wooden-leg" bible, as it is called, but the copies still exist to show how badly he blundered.

They display a print of "The enemy of man" sowing tares amongst the wheat. For some unexplained reason, the etcher reproduced Satan with a tall and wooden leg!

Even allowing for today's sophisticated photo-scan type-

setting and checking procedures, errors still come rolling off the presses.

Take for instance the New Jerusalem Bible, produced not many years ago in the U.K. Many churchmen were quoted as in this praising its "scrupulous accuracy".

They clearly had not studied Psalm 122, verse six, line one, which reads "Pray for peace in Jerusalem". The correct version reads "pray for peace in Jerusalem."

Anyone in possession of an ancient bible containing curious errors could virtually name their own price for it.

Especially if it happens to be the 1551 successor to the Coverdale Bible. This says: "thou shalt not be afraid of anye bugges."

In Medieval times, bugges meant bogeymen or ghosts.

It has just had its general election -- the under the present count. This exercise has furthered its democratic and ensured continuation at least another five years. The soundest leadership country has had since sing away of its founding

SYDNEY, (A.F.) -- "Sharks are more afraid of me than I am of them," says underwater filming expert, Ron Taylor, who with his wife, Valerie, was responsible for the live shark footage in the movie, "Jaws".

"All creatures have an instinct of self preservation which makes them retreat not retaliate. If you hit a shark they'll try to get away," he said in an interview.

Ron admits to a narrow escape from death 60 miles off Durban, South Africa, some years ago while filming a feature documentary, "Blue Water Whet Death." He says that because most sharks tend to keep off people he has to place food in the water to be able to film them. "But this makes them dangerous as they are aroused into a feeding pattern," he said.

These remarks do not suggest that the uninitiated skin diver should head for shark infested waters to observe the underwater giants in their natural habitat.

While pointing out that he knows how to work with sharks in "relative safety," Ron said he still has a great fear of "a great white shark not seen coming." And this is a serious risk. The underwater explorer has a small range of vision and no vibrations or shadows are noticed in the water because of diving gear.

"Sharks, if they come to investigate, quite often come from behind."

"Skin divers who have survived shark attacks always say they never saw the shark coming," he added.

Moreover, different varieties of sharks have individual characteristics which have to be understood before skin divers can approach close enough to observe or photograph them.

When the great white shark for example is aroused and wants to test a strange object in the water, it uses its teeth.

That characteristic makes it the most ferocious looking of sharks and the ideal central character for "Jaws".

The largest of the dangerous sharks, having killed numbers of skin divers, is the great white shark average 12 to 14 feet in length with a weight exceeding 1,000 pounds although one of

the species recently caught in Western Australia weighed 3,388 pounds.

Another shark species dubbed a "crank shark," if pulled by the tail, is likely to turn and snap at a defense mechanism set up for its lack of being make a speedy getaway.

Other than this "crazy" variety which waits for something to come along, all other species normally get away "once or after them."


Ron, won the world shing championship at I 1965. Now he is opposed sport because of its "dous decimation of marh the damage its done to ralia's coastline and the lity of fish to escape nally powered spear gun."

"I used to spear all sharks before because I they were all dangerous now says Ron "I'm more of being swept away in rent than of the sea being lost at sea sweep from my boat; that's m test fear."

And he says Valerie, derwater expert in be right, "fears big wave the danger of the boat turning in rough seas w does not have diving eq on."

"We have a healthy sport, our hobby, our and our interest. If we a holiday we're usual diving," says Ron, addin one of his hopes is that soon be able to film the a relative of the great shark which is only fo deep waters.

WALL TO WALL



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هكذا صنعنا القليل

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF © 1977 by Chicago Tribune

Neither vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
 ♠ AK642
 ♥ 753
 ♦ QJ4
 ♣ JS

EAST
 ♠ QJ1085
 ♥ A
 ♦ AK9872
 ♣ 9432

SOUTH
 ♠ 3
 ♥ QJ10862
 ♦ 65
 ♣ AKQ10

The bidding:
 West North
 1♣ 1♠ 2♥
 3♥ 3♥ Pass Pass

position over dummy's queue of diamonds, it was obvious that declarer had at least one discard coming to him on a high spade from dummy.

So rather than try to reach partner for another diamond lead through and run the risk of having declarer bluff

his remaining diamond. Sokolower elected to continue with the ace of diamonds and another.

Since it was likely that East held a six-card suit, declarer took the precaution of ruffing high. An overruff by West would have made declarer's life easy, but West rose to the occasion by discarding a club.

Next, it was declarer's turn to show good technique. He crossed to dummy with the jack of clubs to lead a trump. East perforce won the ace, and found the killing return to defeat the contract. He continued with another diamond.

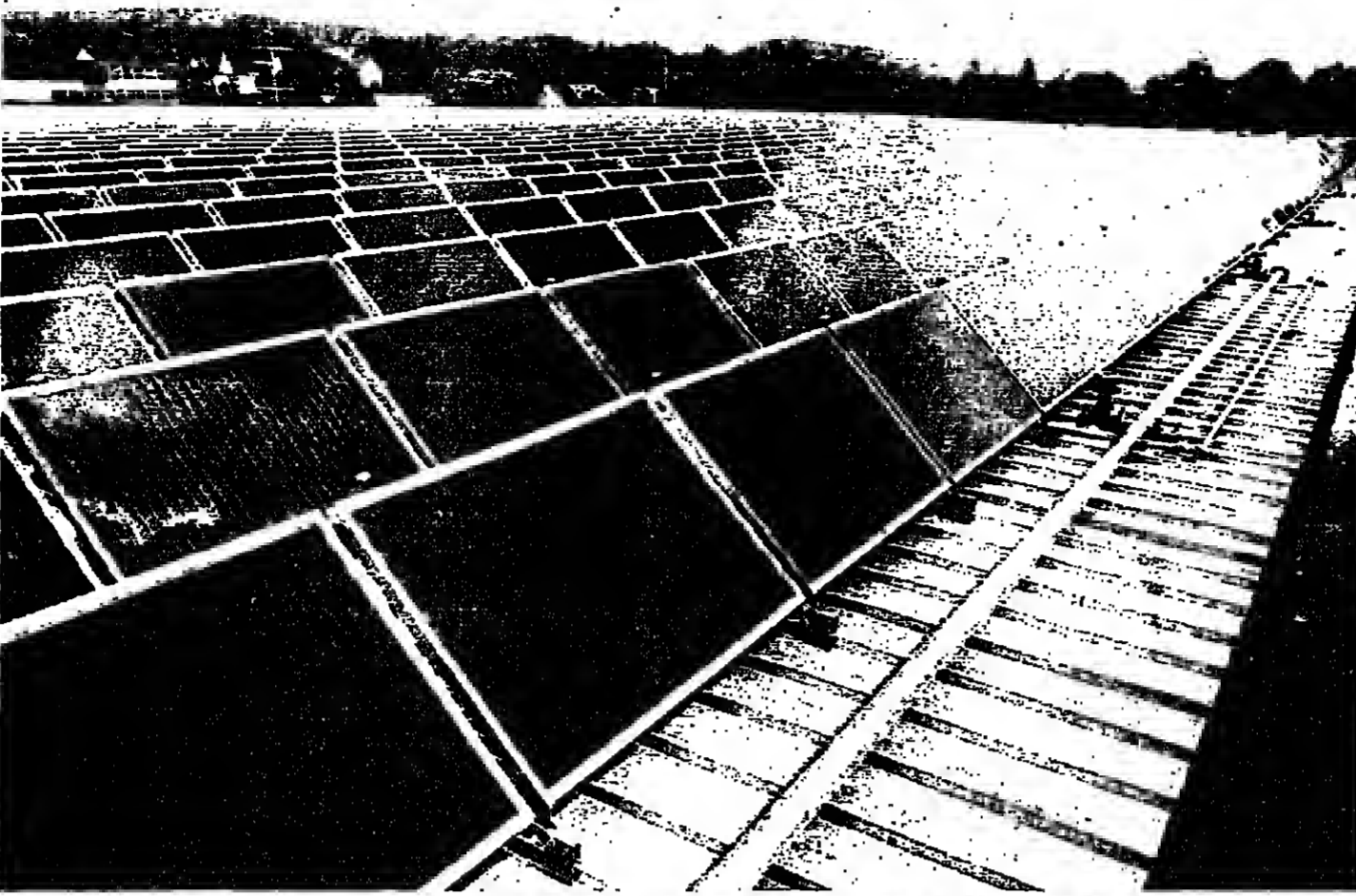
Declarer was helpless. If he ruffed low, West would overruff with the one and score the king of trumps for the setting trick. But ruffing high was no better, for West would shed another club and her K-9 of trumps would then be poised over declarer's Q-8 to assure two more tricks for the defense.

Careful defense usually requires partnership cooperation. Watch what happens when two thoughtful defenders combine their efforts against a seemingly pregame contract.

West's bid might not meet with approval in all quarters, but if West did not get in the auction immediately, the partnership's ability to compete might be impaired. He bid certainly caused problems for North, who stilled for a raise of his partner's overall.

Sitting East-West were two Jersey stars Lester Sokolower and Barbara Tepper. Ms. Tepper led the queen of her partner's suit, trumped by the jack and won the king. Sokolower took time to study the situation, although he held a tenace

THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



THE SUN AS ENERGY PROVIDER -- Dr. Ulf Bossel, the president of the German Society for Solar Energy, feels it is perfectly feasible for solar energy to provide some 11 per cent of the heat requirements by the year 2000. The scientist expects some 5,000 orders for solar heating systems to be received this year. Some 250 such heating systems were installed in 1976, the largest of them in an open-air swimming pool (see photo). The system's 11,000 solar collectors provide a pleasant water temperature even on cool days.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 1977

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RIGHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today brings some difficulties with details that require more than usual care on your part. Practical interests move smoothly and you are able to get much accomplished.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Make plans that will bring you more abundance in the future. Don't forget to pay an important bill, either. Others can be of real assistance to you where it counts the most.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Plan how to improve your personal affairs. Get some business matter well handled. Enjoy good friends in the evening.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You find it difficult to decide what to do about a problem that has been bothering you. Later you get a clear picture and are able to solve it.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Some friends could disappoint you, but others could easily be very helpful and enjoyable. Avoid a troublemaker.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Don't neglect important civic duties: now; later you reap the benefits. Show more affection for family and be happy.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Contact new acquaintances who have the information you need at this time, but be diplomatic in extracting it from them. Come to right decisions where expansion is concerned.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Use up-to-date methods to handle responsibilities you have been putting off for too long. Show more consideration for a loved one.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Keep your part of any agreements you have made and plan how you can expand. Take time to see loved ones you have been neglecting.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Plan to work more on projects that have not proved too successful and they work out to your advantage. Try to cooperate more with co-workers and you get better results with them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Make plans for future festive occasions with those whose company you enjoy. Put your finest skills to work and accomplish much.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get the okay of kin for new changes you want to make at home that will make it more functional. Avoid strangers today as you are in an argumentative mood.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Don't delay in going after aims that mean the most to you and you get right results. Take time to enjoy the company of good friends.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, no letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PAUNC
 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

NICEW
 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

YERFIN
 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

COYJEK
 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Print answer here: A "□-□□□-□" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TWEET JOUST FORMAL GENUS
 Answer: Responsible for laughter in the court—THE JESTER



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

GRAFFITI

...HALLO!
 IS THIS 67171-2-3-4?
 I'D LIKE TO RESERVE A SPACE FOR AN AD IN THE JORDAN TIMES...

IT'S NOT HARD TO SPOT A POOL UNLESS HE'S HIDING INSIDE YOU

TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURE

MYSTERY MOVIE: PHILIPS GAME

A woman hires killer to murder McMillan who caused her financial loss when he prodded the police department to purchase a piece of land she owned.

LUCY SHOW: LUCY SAVES MILTON BERLE

Lucy tries to save vagabond by taking him home and lecturing him.

MAKE THE JORDAN TIMES WORK FOR YOU

An advertisement in the Jordan Times will be seen by some 10,000 people in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. Don't you have anything to say to them?
 To spread your word, contact the Jordan Times advertising department by phone at 67171, or in person at the Jordan Times - Al Ra'i building, on University Road.

OUT AND ABOUT

QUICK MEAL
 Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Take home, lunch or dinner. Jabal Amman, First Circle. Tel. 21083. Jabal Al Luweidh, Hawuz Circle. Tel. 30646. Jabal Al Hussein, near Jerusalem Cinema. Tel. 21781. Also in Zarqa and Irbid.

CHINESE RESTAURANT
 First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabal Amman, near the Akiyah School or CMS. Tel. 38968. Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service - order by phone.

THE DIPLOMAT
 First Circle, Jabal Amman. Tel. 23592. Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

For advertising in above columns contact "Sour Wa Sour" Tel. 38869. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

LAUGHS FROM EUROPE

GERMANY Focke

"You needn't be so surprised that Rover is sad - you've eaten the food I prepared for him."

THE BETTER HALF. By Barnes

"This is unfair! If I knew this was going to happen I wouldn't have called in sick from work today."

PEANUTS

WHERE AM I? RIGHT THERE!
 WE WERE PRACTICING, AND YOUR HEAD GOT IN THE WAY OF OUR BALL...
 WE'RE LOOKING FOR AN OLDER PERSON TO COACH OUR TEAM... DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT BASEBALL?

THE FLINTSTONES

SAY, THAT'S PRETTY. WHAT'S THE NAME OF THAT ALBUM?
 I'M NOT SURE...
 PROBABLY TITLED: "MUSIC TO RAID THE REFRIGERATOR BY..."

MUTI AND JEFF

THE WAY OF THE WORLD STARTS IN THE HOME!
 JOKE...
 SMACK!

ROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS: 29. Seizure; 31. Small swallow; 33. Bossy; 34. Jumble; 36. Cornerbound; 38. Puffer; 42. Altar screen; 45. Counter-tenor; 46. Textile screw; 47. Playwright; 48. Handsome monkey; 49. Reddish-brown; 50. Divot; 51. Baby carriage.

DOWN: 4. Phantom; 5. Sportsmen; 6. Bread spread; 7. Moves with violence; 8. Paper money of South Korea; 9. Haslen; 10. Experienced; 11. Defendant; 12. Girl's name; 13. Unmarried man; 14. Conceit; 15. Makshrit; 16. Grampus; 17. Cheer; 18. Maltreated; 19. Symbol of innocence; 20. Leaf of the betel; 21. Strawberry and chocolate; 22. Indicate approval; 23. Timber wolf; 24. Chemist's lamp; 25. Prowl; 26. Mortar beater; 27. Epoch; 28. Skate.

Callaghan ponders secret offer from Liberal Party

LONDON, March 22 (R). — On the eve of a parliamentary battle which must bring down the Labour government unless it finds allies, British Prime Minister James Callaghan today pondered a secret offer from the small Liberal Party. The contents of a letter delivered this morning from Liberal leader David Steel were

Kosygin starts Finland visit

HELSINKI, March 22 (AFP). — Soviet Prime Minister Alexei Kosygin today began a five-day "friendship visit" to Finland, to continue regular contacts between leaders of the Soviet Union and Finland. Topical international issues connected with the forthcoming Belgrade review of the Helsinki security conference as well as the economic cooperation between Finland and the Soviet Union were expected to dominate the talks. President Urho Kekkonen who himself has visited the Soviet Union dozens of times, was at the Helsinki railway station to greet his guest who was earlier met at Vaikkola border crossing town by Finnish Prime Minister Martti Miettunen. Tomorrow Kosygin will together with President Kekkonen inaugurate Finland's first nuclear power station in Loviisa, on the southern coast. The first 420,000 kilowatt unit of the power station, built in cooperation with the Soviet Union, went into operation on test basis earlier this year. The second unit, also 420,000 kilowatts, is scheduled to run into operation next year.



AGENT IN GREECE — Five Britons, sentenced to ten months imprisonment each for spying on Greek military airports, are flanked by police officers in court in Athens Friday as they listen to the verdict. They are from left to right: Christopher Taylor, Kieran Pilbeam, Christopher Knott, Roy Struges and Timothy Spearman. (AP wirephoto).

France breaks up a spy-ring dealing with a foreign power

PARIS, March 22 (R). — France's counter-espionage service announced tonight that it had broken up a spy-ring which had passed French and NATO defence secrets to an unnamed foreign power over a 14-year period. The Direction de la Surveillance de Territoire (DST) said three Frenchmen and Italian had been charged tonight with communicating with agents of a foreign power. A fourth Frenchman was still being interrogated, the DST announced today. All five had been arrested in the past week. It named the men who were charged as Mr. Serge Fahiew,

a Yugoslav-born naturalised Frenchman, described as a company director, Mr. Giovanni Ferrero, born in Turin and employed by the Italian company Fiat in France, Mr. Roger Laval, a Paris-boro retired air traffic controller, and Mr. March Lefebvre, an engineer born in Vimy, northern France. According to the DST, the group were accused of having passed on information on French aircraft construction and on the layout and security system around most of the country's military and civil air bases and weapons testing centres. Other secrets divulged to the unnamed power included details of NATO committee reports on arms supplies, latest aeronautical and military research findings, details of the Atlantic alliance's defences and technological data on electronics and hallistics, the DST added.

Greece, Turkey continue naval exercises

ATHENS, March 22 (R). — Greek and Turkish naval and air force units continued separate exercises in different parts of the Aegean today. Greece had protested the Turkish manoeuvres would hamper navigation and air traffic, but no incidents were reported and tension has eased. An authoritative source here said Turkish naval units complied with international regulations and carried out their manoeuvres in prearranged areas without adversely affecting sea and air traffic. The Turks are holding their manoeuvres in the eastern Aegean, inside Turkish and international waters. The Greek manoeuvres are in the western Aegean, mostly inside Greek waters.

Carter proposes U.N. Security Council permanent seat for Japan

WASHINGTON, March 22 (R). — U.S. President Carter last night proposed that Japan be given a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council. At the same time, he pledged that the United States would never again bypass Japan in foreign policy initiatives. "We have tied ourselves together in the most close and intimate way — we are truly partners in the true sense of the word," Mr. Carter said in a toast at a White House dinner given in honour of the Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, who arrived here yesterday. "We have promised that never again will we bypass Japan before we make a commitment," the president said. Relations between the two countries were strained at times during the Nixon administration, primarily because American initiatives towards China were undertaken without first consulting Japan. Mr. Fukuda, in his reply, reiterated Japan's close ties to the United States and stressed the need for closer cooperation between the two countries. Mr. Carter earlier told Mr. Fukuda he thought Japan should play a greater political part in world affairs, especially in Asia, but did not spell out what role he had in mind. Japan has long campaigned for a permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council and received the support of the United States under the previous administration. But any proposal to change the composition of the council could be vetoed by any of the present five permanent members — the United States, the Soviet Union, China, Britain and France.

Nguabi's murder blamed on "power-hungry" politicians

BRAZZAVILLE, March 21 (AFP). — Last Friday's murder of Congolese President Marien Nguabi was a political assassination masterminded by "power-hungry" politicians, a communiqué of the ruling Congolese Labour Party's (CLP) Military Investigative Committee reported today. "Ex-capt. Kikandidi, who led the (four-man) commando suicide squad, was nothing but a vulgar henchman in the pay of (ex-President) Alphonse Massamba-Debat," said the communiqué released here today. It added that the "power-hungry" politicians who were behind President Nguabi's murder, along with jailed ex-President Massamba-Debat, had been responsible for various other plots and assassinations. Their lives were spared by President Nguabi, it said. The communiqué made clear that the CLP's Military Committee had committed itself to "punishing severely" those responsible by "opposing reactionary violence," with revolutionary measures. The committee also reportedly ordered the re-opening of Maya-Maya International Airport here as of today. However all Congolese nationalists wishing to leave the country were to seek prior authorization from the military committee. The communiqué said 40 foreign travellers were "systematically" subjected to security measures imposed by the committee. Meanwhile, Soviet leaders at a telegram of "deep condolences" following the "tragic" death of President Nguabi. The message, cited today in the Soviet Tass news agency, praised "the faithful son of the Congolese people" for his contribution to the struggle against imperialism and colonialism in Africa, Congo's independence and the development of a "new relationship of friendship and solidarity" with the Soviet Union. Madagagascar, Nigeria, Mali and Togo also sent messages of condolences to Congolese military leaders. In Lagos, the influential New Nigerian newspaper today said that President Nguabi's assassination underscored "the need for a humane and open system of government which includes the provisions of a free and fair election" in Africa.

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

5 African nations launch "African unity's road"

ALGIERS, March 22 (AFP). — By 1980, motorists will be able to drive from here to Agades, Niger and to the Malian city of Gao at a top speed of 120 kms an hour when construction of the Transsaharan Highway which began here in 1971, is completed. The Algerian Sunday Press highlighted this "African unity's road" on the occasion of the summit meeting of countries bordering the Sahara (Algeria, Mali, Niger, Chad and Libya) in Nlameye, Niger. The road will reportedly reach Tamanrasset at Algeria's southern tip by late 1978. As early as Sept. 1971, thousands of young Algerian drafters had begun construction of the first 600 kms section which, since 1973 has been linking the city of Guelma to Insalak. The next 700 kms section between Salah and Tamanrasset is slated to be completed late next year, with only a 350 kms section left to reach in Guezam, on the border between Algeria and Niger. The Algerian press has been underscoring "Algeria's African vocation" and its desire to turn the transsaharan into an instrument of cooperation between Saharan countries and "a powerful link between their peoples." It has stressed the "vanguard role" Algeria intends to play in promoting Afro-Arab cooperation by recalling Algerian numerous initiatives to make it a road to success. "Algeria, an African and Arab country, did not wait for the failures of the Euro-Arab dialogue, the Afro-European or neorhis dialogues to realise the strategic importance of the (Afro-Arab) common cooperation," wrote the governmental daily newspaper Al Moudjahid. It recalled Algeria's financial contributions to Africa's economic development through African Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries institutions. It noted that for many years, Algeria had been trying to develop a major and modern network of telecommunications, of airlines and maritime lines with Africa "thus boosting the volume of trade and bringing about a rapprochement of our countries and peoples in their struggle against underdevelopment." Another recommendation made to the government concerned was that the council should have a secretariat to implement its resolutions. Mr. Abdul Rahman Al Atiqi, Kuwait's Finance Minister to whom the ministry the state-run Kuwait Airways is attached, told the opening session yesterday the outcome would have an important effect on developing the region's aviation network and backing its economy. In Bahrain, the daily newspaper Akhbar Al Khaleef reported today that the ministers also drew up a plan to be referred to their governments on the creation of a unified aviation company. The paper said that Gulf Air and Kuwait Airways would serve as a nucleus for the proposed firm.

Gulf states to form unified aviation co.

KUWAIT, March 22 (R). — Five Gulf Ministers have recommended setting up a higher council for civil aviation to develop air services in their countries, it was officially announced here.

\$ falls to lowest rate against yen

TOKYO, March 22 (R). — The United States dollar fell to its lowest rate against the yen in almost three years on the Tokyo foreign exchange market today. The dollar ended the day at 279.70 yen, a drop of 1.60 yen on Friday's closing rate and the lowest since hitting 278.55 in May, 1974. The market here was closed yesterday because of a national holiday. Dealers attributed the yen's sharp rise to press speculation that the Japanese government was ready to allow the currency to appreciate to around 270 yen to the dollar. They said it also reflected the continuing improvement in Japan's balance of payments position. Trading was heavy, with volume totalling \$236 million compared with \$198 million on Friday. Bank of Japan officials said earlier today they would continue to allow the yen to float in accordance with market forces, but would intervene when necessary to curb erratic fluctuations.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

* TRIPOLI, March 22 (AFP). — Mrs. Imelda Marcos, wife and special envoy of the Philippines president, left here today after a 10-day visit. Tripoli Radio reported. Mrs. Marcos flew here for talks with Libyan leader Col. Moamer Qadhafi after the Libyan-sponsored talks between the Philippine government and Moslem secessionists in the southern Philippines broke down.

* LONDON, March 21 (AFP). — King Khalid of Saudi Arabia, who entered Wellington Hospital here on Feb. 15 and later had a hip operation, is beginning to walk and making good progress, a Saudi source said today. King Khalid would have to remain at the hospital for several more weeks, the source added. It had not yet been decided if he would remain in England for the convalescence envisaged after he left hospital.

* TUNIS, March 22 (R). — The Tunisian government announced the arrest of 23 supporters of exiled former Economy Minister Ahmed Ben Salah, accused of distributing anti-government leaflets. An official communiqué last night said they were associated with "a clandestine organisation whose essential design was to fight the regime by illegal means and to harm the achievements and the unity of the nation." The communiqué said the organisation was headed by Mr. Ben Salah, who has been living abroad since his escape in 1973 from prison where he was serving a 10-year sentence for high treason.

* HANOI, March 22 (AFP). — The U.S. government has promised to refrain from aiding or supporting "the Laotian traitors or any of their activities," the Pathet Lao News Agency reported today. This was stated in a dispatch printed by the Vietnamese Communist Party newspaper Nhan Dan about the talks in the Laotian capital on Saturday by a U.S. presidential delegation. The group, led by Mr. Leonard Woodcock, President of the United Auto Workers Union, reportedly told Deputy Foreign Minister Noupphan Sitpha Say that President Jimmy Carter wanted good relations with Laos.

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices showed a moderate loss Tuesday on the New York stock exchange, where the industrial average was off more than two points in low trading. Brokers said inflation and interest rate worries continued to inhibit buying interest.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

* HONG KONG, March 22 (R). — China and Egypt signed three-year trade agreements in Peking today, the New China News Agency reported. The agency said the agreements were signed by Chinese Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade, Chen Chien, and the Egyptian First Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Trade and Supply, Dr. Saleh Ibrahim Toulan.

* NEW YORK, March 22 (AFP). — The safest countries to invest in are Switzerland, West Germany, the United States, Canada and the Netherlands, a study published in the Wall Street Journal today said. It was carried out by F.T. Haner, teacher of business management at the University of Delaware. Since 1971 he has compiled a "business environment risk index" based on reports from about 100 businessmen throughout the world. The survey advised against investments in Portugal, Pakistan, Argentina, Peru and India.

* ABU DHABI, March 22 (R). — Forty Arab experts in finance and banking start talks here this morning on obstacles blocking the smooth flow of Arab capital to those Arab financial and banking institutions in most need of additional funds. The conference will be held in Ramada Hotel under the patronage of Sheikh Surour Ibn Mohamed, the Deputy Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development.

* WASHINGTON, March 22 (R). — The U.S. Congress yesterday moved a step closer to approving President Carter's economic stimulus plan that includes a \$50 tax rebate for Americans. The bill, which cuts taxes by a total of \$31.3 billion in financial years 1977-1978, was passed in the Senate Finance Committee by a 9-7 vote. In addition to the new Carter proposals, the legislation includes an extension of temporary tax cuts that went into effect in 1975. It now goes to the full Senate, probably next week, where it may be amended.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market tumbled firm Tuesday as operators speculated on possible Liberal Party support for the government in tomorrow's general election, dealers said. Overall trading was light and at 15:00 the F.T. index was up 82 at 422.6.

Government bonds firmed up to 5/8 point while equity leaders showed on balance gains of up to 10p. Much of the gain in these were due to a technical reaction to yesterday's sharp fall.

Gold shares weakened with the bullion price in slack trading. Dollar stocks and Canadians declined. Australians made further small headway.

Price of gold closed in London Tuesday at \$150.40/oz.

Zaire president says invaders led by Cuban

KINSHASA, March 22 (AFP). — Katangese troops who are invading the southwest corner of Zaire's Shaba Province are definitely led by Cubans, however loudly Cuban Premier Fidel Castro might deny it, President Mobutu Sese Seko said here today. In Dr. Etia Balaam, yesterday Mr. Castro denied allegations that the 5,000 former Katangese mercenaries said to have entered Zaire from Angola were accompanied by Cubans. Gen. Mobutu told the official Zaire news agency (AZAF) that the invaders had been trained and indoctrinated by Cubans. Messages intercepted in the battle area by the Zairese forces were in Swahili, which he said the Katangese would hardly have forgotten during their 14 years' exile in Angola since the fall of the secessionist Katanga state led by the late Moise Tshombe. But the attackers also spoke Spanish and Portuguese, Gen. Mobutu said. President Mobutu attributed yesterday's Cuban and Soviet denial of involvement in the Shaba affair to "the bad conscience (of Soviet Communist Party Secretary General) Leonid Brezhnev and Fidel Castro." Ever since Zaire, then the Belgian Congo, became independent in 1960 the Soviet Union had been warring its brains for a way of encircling Zaire "while we, having freely defined our own options, have spared no effort to seek relations of friendship, peace and concord with all our neighbours," the Zairese leader added. Sophisticated weapons not in the hands of the invader of Shaba who were using the to kill Zairese people refused to accept Marxist rule were the same as those supplied by the Soviet Union to the full Angolan People's Liberation Movement (MPLA) to crush the Western-backed National Front (FNLA) and Unita (National Union) in the Angolan civil war, Gen. Mobutu said. The Zairese leader defended his government's appeals for aid in the past few days to the United States and other countries.

Toronto fan of Idi Amin surrenders to police

TORONTO, March 22 (R). — A gunman who held four hostages in a bank here today demanding to be flown to Uganda to see President Idi Amin and join his army surrendered tonight, police said. In an earlier development the man who claimed to be a former white mercenary in Africa took a sbo-gun and grabbed 15 hostages in a bank here demanding to be flown to Uganda to meet "my pal Idi Amin". Four hours after he entered the Banque Canadienne Nationale he told a radio reporter and an unarmed policeman, who he had allowed to enter, that his name was Bob McClellan from Vancouver in British Columbia. He said he was a former mercenary who fought in the Congo (now Zaire) 12 years ago. The gunman demanded that a C-130 Hercules military transport plane be made ready at Toronto airport. He told police over the telephone he would take four of his hostages and a senior police official with him to the airport. "Why Uganda? I want to see my pal Idi Amin. I'm a fan of his. I've never met the man but I'm a fan of his," he said. The gunman said he had held hostages and was armed with a 12-bore with five shots. He told a local radio station he was prepared to use the weapon — "that's why I brought along." The gunman said he did not want money, but only wanted to go to Uganda. "I want a C-130 Hercules aircraft," he said in a radio interview. "I don't want to own it. I just want to borrow it. I'll take a little drive down to Africa. I was a mercenary in the Congo in '65 and I just want to get back down in that area. A spokesman at a Canadian air base at Trenton in Ontario said the base had received a request to put a C-130 on standby alert. The man said over the radio "I've got about 15 people up here and they've nowhere to go. There's no way, really, the police can get at me unless they can snipe me, which I don't." Police said the gunman had turned down an offer to exchange a policeman for his hostages.

Are there disloyal trading practices behind U.S. trade deficit with Japan?

WASHINGTON, March 22 (AFP). — Japan's Premier Takeo Fukuda, who arrived here yesterday for two days of talks with President Carter, might be faced with a number of tricky questions today on Japanese-American trade. Japan last year sold 900,000 automobiles, eight million tons of steel, 9.9 million radio receivers, 2.8 million radio sets and 2.5 million colour television sets on the U.S. market. As well as huge quantities of man-made textiles fibres, toys and cameras. This all added up to a \$5,400 million deficit on the U.S. trade balance with Japan — accounting for practically the entire 1976 American foreign trade deficit of \$5,800 million — and renewed claims in many American quarters of that disloyal or questionable trading practices were behind it all. These experts point out that in quadrupling their sales of short wave receivers last year, the Japanese cashed in on the spectacular boom in the citizen band radio communications in the United States. It was not the first time that the Japanese industry took advantage of a particular fashion or craze among American consumers. A few years ago, they made a similar operation in the field of electronic pocket calculators, before American makers hit back developing competitive products. In spite of a 35 per cent rise in imports from Japan last year, which were up to a total of \$15,600 million worth of goods, the steel and television industries are the only sectors of American industry which have openly pressed for protection. The U.S. International Trade Commission was to officially convey to the White House today recommendations for an increase in import duties on television sets, on which President Carter will have to take a stand within 90 days. Mr. Fukuda yesterday called for government-level talks on this issue within the next several weeks. He said a 133 per cent increase last year in sales of Japanese colour television sets here in 1976 was largely due to high Japanese stock after the recession, and affirmed that this trend would not continue in 1977. In the steel sector, American producers are increasingly complaining about rising Japanese sales on the U.S. market, which they link with Japan's under-talking to show self-restraint in exports to Western Europe. They are calling for steps to slow the growth of imports in this field. The American Iron and Steel Institute said yesterday that "Japan continues to ship a disproportionately high volume of steel" to the United States this year. Although imports of Japanese steel last January totalled just below 670,000 tons or about the same as in January 1976. The steel problem was apparently not discussed yesterday by Mr. Fukuda and Mr. Carter.